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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF FARNHAM



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1950

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

The CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF FARNHAM

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor H. W. BIDE (*Chairman*).

Councillor COL. R. D. S. ANDERSON, O.B.E.

Councillor C. E. BORELLI.

Councillor LT.-COL. R. P. DENT.

Councillor W. H. EMERY, J.P., F.C.I.S. (*Chairman of the Council*).

Councillor BRIG. L. A. FANSHAWE, C.B.E., D.S.O.

Councillor MRS. E. V. HALL.

Councillor A. P. TICE, J.P., C.C. (*Vice-Chairman of the Council*).

Councillor LIEUT.-COLONEL G. UNDERHILL.

Councillor C. W. WILLIAMS.

Councillor S. YOUNG.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health :

F. BEDO HOBBS, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time)

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

R. M. SARGENT, M.R.SAN.I., M.INST.R.ARCH.

Special Cert. Meat and Other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

S. A. EADE, M.R.SAN.I.,

Special Certs. Meat and Other Foods and Sanitary Science as
Applied to Buildings and Public Works; Diploma General Hygiene.

Clerk :

S. J. COLLETT.

Pupil :

G. A. SPENCER.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ended 31st December, 1950

Public Health Department,
Brightwell House,
East Street,
Farnham, Surrey.

September, 1951.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF FARNHAM

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report, together with that of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, for the year 1950.

I am happy to record that there have been no major epidemics and that the health of the population has been good, as indicated by the small amount of infectious disease and the record low figures for infant mortality and non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

I have discussed at some length the problem of the aged, and feel that Farnham is making progress in dealing with this, and also with the housing shortage.

It is most satisfactory to note that in spite of so much Nationalisation and centralisation of control, the voluntary services are functioning as well, if not better, than before, and I feel sure the Committee would wish to express their thanks to all those who have so helpfully co-operated with the Council in its various activities during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

F. BEDO HOBBS,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The area of the Urban District of Farnham is unchanged, being 9,039 acres.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population for the year 1950 is 24,220.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1950 was 6,950 and shops with dwellings 215, giving a total of 7,165.

The rateable value is £214,910 and the sum represented by a penny rate is £860.

BIRTHS

During 1950 there were 358 live births, 190 male and 168 female, in Farnham, giving a birth rate of 14.78 per 1,000 of the population. Of these, 185 male and 165 female were legitimate and 5 male and 3 female were illegitimate.

There were 5 male and 4 female legitimate stillbirths and no illegitimate stillbirths. This gives a rate of 0.37 per 1,000 of the population, which is the same as that for England and Wales.

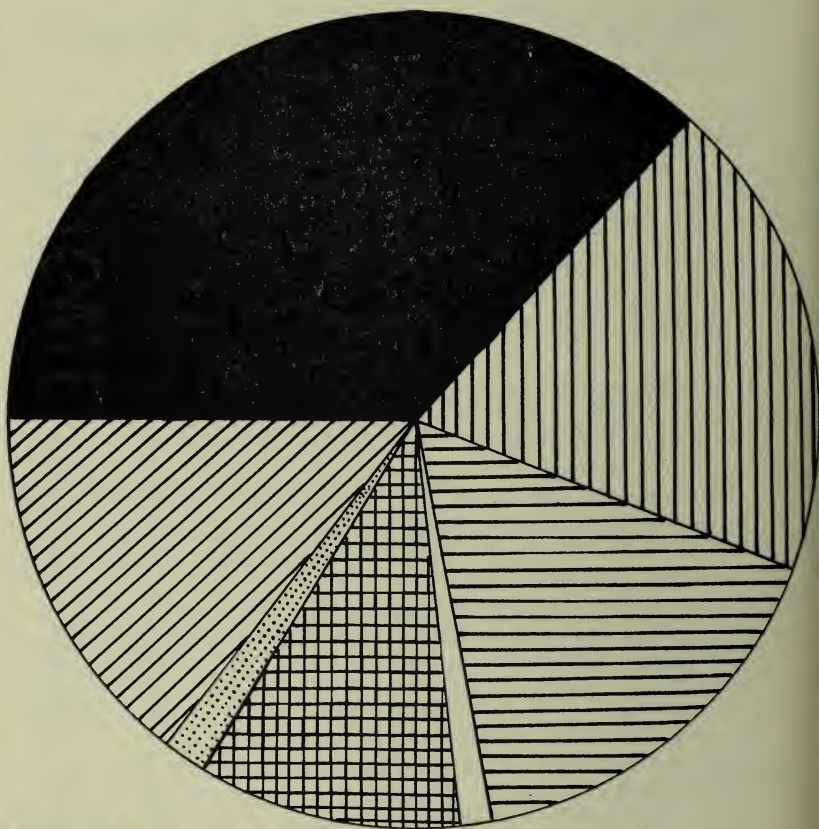
The birth rate is slightly lower than last year.

DEATHS

The total number of deaths in 1950 was 310, 152 male and 158 female, classified as follows:—

	M.	F.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	4
Syphilitic Disease	2	0
Meningococcal Infections	1	0
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	7	0
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	5	0
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	0	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	0	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	14	15
Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	1	1
Diabetes	2	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	28	32
Coronary Disease, Angina	23	15
Hypertension, with Heart Disease	4	5
Other Heart Disease	19	41
Other Circulatory Disease	2	5
Influenza	0	1
Pneumonia	7	4
Bronchitis	7	8
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	0	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa	0	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	4	0
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	14	10
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1
All Other Accidents	2	1
Suicide	4	1
Totals	152	158

CAUSES OF DEATHS



HEART AND ARTERIES
VASCULAR LESION OF NERVOUS SYSTEM
CANCER
OTHER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES
LUNGS
ACCIDENTS

This gives a death rate of 12.79 per 1,000 of the population, which is lower than last year.

The figure opposite shows that heart and vascular diseases, together with cancer, make up the vast proportion of deaths.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

It is satisfactory to record that there were no deaths from childbirth during the year.

INFANT MORTALITY

This is defined as deaths under one year of age. In 1950 there were three deaths, two of them being under 4 weeks of age, giving a death rate of 8.37 per 1,000 live births. This is the lowest ever recorded in Farnham and compares favourably with the figure of 29.8 for England and Wales.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

The following is a list of clinics and treatment centres:—

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

Brightwell House, East Street, Farnham — Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2—4 p.m.

The Institute, Rowledge—1st and 3rd Mondays, 2—4 p.m.

The Village Hall, Wrecclesham — 2nd and 4th Mondays, 2—4 p.m.

The Scouts' Hall, Gravel Hill, Lower Bourne—1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 2—4 p.m.

The Institute, Hale—Fridays, 2—4 p.m.

The Scouts' Hall, Badshot Lea — 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 2—4 p.m.

SCHOOL CLINIC AND DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINIC

Brightwell House, East Street, Farnham — 1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays, 10 a.m.—12 noon.

CHEST CLINIC

Brightwell House, East Street, Farnham — Every Tuesday, 10 a.m.—5 p.m.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

Brightwell House, East Street, Farnham—Every Wednesday, 2 p.m.

DENTAL CLINIC

Brightwell House, East Street, Farnham — Every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m.—5 p.m.

SPEECH TRAINING CLINIC

Brightwell House, East Street, Farnham — Every Monday, 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC

Brightwell House, East Street, Farnham — 2nd and 4th Fridays, 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

CLEANSING CENTRE

Brightwell House—Every Tuesday, 10 a.m.—12 noon.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The ambulance service, now under the control of the County Council, is still carried on by the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and I am indebted to Mr. Mansey, Superintendent of the Division, for the following report.

“The work of the Division may be divided into three sections:—

- (a) The Ambulance Service
- (b) Public Duties
- (c) First Aid Instruction

(a) THE AMBULANCE SERVICE

The vast majority of the work is in running the service as agents for the Surrey County Council. The station is manned by 4 paid men, but to provide both general and emergency cover means that although the bulk of the work is carried out by these men (who incidentally do voluntary work also with their colleagues) quite a large number of duty hours have to be covered by volunteers.

All the night duty, the greater part of the week-end duty, plus the reinforcement of those periods, mainly in the evening, when only one paid driver is on duty, is carried out by volunteers.

Attached is a table giving an analysis of the 3,260 calls received during the year. At times, all four vehicles belonging to the Brigade were on the road simultaneously and a total of 48,612 miles was travelled.

(b) PUBLIC DUTIES AND DIVISIONAL WORK

During the year, Mr. Alan Tice, J.P., C.C., the Divisional President since its foundation, gave the Brigade the moral backing they have learned to expect from him and was always ready with advice when required.

In the general work the Brigade has greatly benefited from the enthusiastic support and practical leadership of the Divisional Surgeon, Dr. Norman.

The main single item under this heading has once again been the Summer Camps at ‘Woodlarks.’ A team of helpers was provided each night for three weeks to assist in bathing and putting the crippled campers to bed. Two helpers from the Nursing and Ambulance Division have also been in attendance each night at Trimmer’s Hospital.

I would also like to acknowledge the tremendous help given in all the work mentioned above by the Nursing Division under its Superintendent, Miss Ariss. The nursing members of the Division have put in 550 transport duties and a number of long distance escort duties, including one to Scotland. They have also administered the medical comforts side of the work, a department which is becoming more popular as the knowledge of its uses spreads.

The men of this Division put in approximately 8,500 man hours voluntary duty in 1950. This figure included attendances at Farnham Pageant, Farnborough Air Display (both with ambulances), Sports Meetings, Scrambles and Football Matches.

(c) INSTRUCTION IN FIRST AID

The Ambulance Cadet Division, under Cadet Officer Lake, have been meeting regularly and have attended public duties with the adult members. The senior boys have carried out stand-by duties at the Headquarters, one boy having put in over 300 hours on this work.

The Nursing Cadet Division is flourishing — over 40 girls meet weekly under the leadership of Cadet Officer Miss Collins.

Examination results show that 25 have passed their preliminary first aid, 16 their preliminary home nursing and 9 their Annual Re-examination. Five girls have taken their adult examinations and five their N.C.O. examinations.

The interest of the cadets is also shown in a practical way by their attendance in Children's Nurseries and Hospitals."

FARNHAM DIVISION ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE, 1950

EMERGENCY:				<i>By Ambulance</i>	<i>By Car</i>	<i>Total</i>
Emergency Accidents	...			86	36	122
Emergency Illness	...	...		121	18	139
False Alarms	...	...	...	3	—	3
Maternity	...	...	...	64	67	131
GENERAL:						
Hospital	...	...	...	709	973	1,682
Out-patients	...	...	...	229	907	1,136
Private Addresses	...	...		27	18	45
Movement up and down stairs				—	2	2
Totals ...				1,239	2,021	3,260

Once again I would like to say how fortunate Farnham is to have a man like Superintendent Mansey in charge of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and the town should be very grateful to him and all those volunteers who work under his inspiring leadership.

There are also two ambulances used solely for infectious cases attached to Green Lane Hospital.

HOSPITAL CAR SERVICE

This service has continued to be of the utmost value to patients and hospitals, and there has been close and friendly co-operation between the Hospital Almoner and Col. Underhill, to whom the district owes a great debt for the vast amount of voluntary work that he does in this connection.

During the year the service did 2,026 journeys, totalling 26,821 miles and carrying 2,142 patients.

DAY NURSERY

This nursery has continued to provide a useful service and the average attendance has been 26 or 27 daily out of a possible 30. Any vacancy is immediately filled from the waiting list, showing that the demand for a nursery is still present. There has been very little sickness among the children and only odd cases of infectious disease.

Six students have been successful in gaining the Nursery Nurses Diploma and four have obtained posts on the staff of other nurseries in Surrey.

"MEALS ON WHEELS"

This service, organised by the W.V.S., has provided 5,433 dinners for old age pensioners and sick people. This is a reduction on the number provided last year, but is a service which is very much appreciated by the recipients.

HOSPITALS

FARNHAM HOSPITAL

This hospital, with 184 beds, is the largest in the hospital group which includes Trimmer's Hospital, Aldershot Hospital, Farnborough & Cove Hospital, Frimley Hospital, Fleet Hospital, Yateley Hospital and the Isolation Hospitals at Aldershot and Farnham. In addition to serving the Urban District of Farnham, it takes patients from the whole group as, having a resident medical staff in addition to a whole-time physician and surgeon, it is able to cope with emergencies at any time.

The work here is increasing steadily, as the following figures show, and the average bed occupancy throughout the year has been 89%:—

Year	No. of Beds	Admissions	Operations	Maternity Cases	Patients X-rayed	Total Out-patient Attendances
1949	184*	2,877	1,166	294	4,334	31,751
1950	162	2,902	1,367	320	4,926	35,567

* 22 beds closed in November and December.

Although, owing to adaptations, there were only 162 beds available for patients in 1950 as compared with 184 for 10 months of 1949, the number of patients treated as in-patients was higher. More operations were done and the work in the X-ray, patho'logical and out-patient departments increased.

During the year the wards in the main block have been redecorated and many improvements made for the comfort of patients, such as individual bed lights and sorbo seating in the waiting rooms. The sanitary blocks have been modernised and new X-ray plant installed, together with a modern dark room. Many other improvements are contemplated, but are limited by the financial position. The most urgent requirements are an extension of the out-patient department, which at times is grossly overcrowded, and a new nurses' home with proper classrooms

for teaching purposes. It is unfortunate that with the present great demand for nurses the residential and teaching accommodation is so limited, making it necessary to refuse applicants.

TRIMMER'S HOSPITAL

This general practitioners' hospital of 30 beds fills a very useful purpose and is popular with both patients and doctors. No out-patient work is done and it relies on Farnham Hospital for much of its major ancillary medical needs.

GREEN LANE HOSPITAL

In addition to taking infectious cases from a wide area, this hospital has been dealing with an increasing number of other semi-infectious but non-notifiable diseases and has also taken a number of children who would otherwise have been treated at Farnham Hospital had not their children's ward been closed owing to the redecorating programme.

THE AGED

As is well known, the relative proportion of the aged to the young is steadily increasing throughout the Country and Farnham is no exception.

In the last 70 to 80 years the expectation of life has increased by over 20 years. Already one-eighth of our total population consists of persons of pensionable age, and that proportion is increasing. This vast increase in the number of elderly folk raises a number of economic and social problems. Farnham is attempting to deal with these in several ways.

The old County Council Institution, now re-named "St. Andrews," can accommodate 53 men and 67 women, while the 7 modern bungalow blocks of "St. James" can take 71 men and 48 women. The latter building is well planned for elderly folk and being situated next to the hospital their medical needs are promptly and efficiently dealt with, while their freedom of movement is limited only by their physical condition; and a variety of entertainments are provided by the wardens and friends.

Shortheath House, accommodating 26 men, is another hostel administered by the County Welfare Authority and under the able administration of Mr. J. Smith the inmates are very happy.

Fourteen bungalows in Hale Road and four in Weydon Lane are in course of construction for the occupation of elderly people.

It will be seen that Farnham is relatively well served with residential accommodation for elderly folk. This type of accommodation, however, is expensive and apart from the economic aspect there is little doubt that the majority of old people are happiest in their own homes. Sir Andrew Davidson, Chief Medical Officer for Scotland, stated recently that a Medical

Officer of Health has estimated that the total cost of caring for an elderly person in his or her own home—including the old age pension, the cost of national assistance and the cost of services provided by the local authority such as, where required, the home help, the district nurse and health visitor—amounts to approximately £98 per person per year, or just under £2 a week. The cost of old people's homes works out at about £3 10s. 0d. per week for each resident, and in hospital it costs £8 a week or considerably more according to the type of hospital.

The primary requirement of most elderly people is not increased facilities for medical attention. Something like half the people of advanced years do not see a doctor from one year's end to another, and only about one-fifth of the elderly people seem to require frequent medical attention. The primary need of the vast majority is not even nursing attention. Possibly about one-fifth of people of pensionable age are in genuine need of regular visits by the district nurses. What is required more than medical and nursing treatment is assistance in carrying out the ordinary activities of life. The old person who is almost capable of maintaining a full and independent existence may need a little help with the heavier jobs of housework. The old woman who is finding shopping and queueing a bit of a strain may need some help. The old woman still capable of living a virtually independent existence who gets tired of cooking requires the provision of an extra meal occasionally to maintain her nutrition, without the fatigue of having to cook for herself. In particular, we must remember the loneliness that sometimes comes to the elderly and the amount of help that can be afforded by the sympathetic and regular visitor going in as a personal friend at regular intervals. Voluntary effort can do a great deal to help the elderly in their own homes.

In this connection, the B.R.C.S. and W.V.S. are being most helpful. The former have organised a Darby and Joan Club in Farnham, which meets once a fortnight, and they have a mobile library of some 2,000 books with clear print in addition to numerous magazines. The latter have five clubs in the surrounding villages of Bourne, Shortheath, Hale, Wrecclesham and Badshot Lea. A weekly tea party and entertainment is provided and in addition various outings and a Christmas party were arranged and proved most enjoyable.

A Trolley Shop is taken to "St. Andrews" and "St. James" Homes every week, a service which is much appreciated by the old folk. Several pensioners have been provided with clothing from the W.V.S. clothing store. •

HOME HELP SERVICE

This service is now fully established and Miss Rodd has kindly provided the following statistics for the Farnham area:—

GENERAL CASES ATTENDED

Acute	...	...	...	...	...	32
Chronic	...	...	...	...	...	18
Tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	1

—
51
—

Hours worked 6,664

MATERNITY CASES ATTENDED 28

Hours worked 2,934

NUMBER OF HELPS AVAILABLE 12

It is possible that more use could be made of this service, particularly by elderly folk.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIONOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES — 1950

The following table shows the number of infectious diseases, in age groups, notified during 1950:—

Infectious Disease	At all ages	Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over	Cases admitted to hospital	Total deaths
Scarlet Fever	27	—	—	1	3	2	15	2	1	1	2	—	—	16	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	4	0
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	11*
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	0
Meningococcal Infections	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	1
Encephalitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	0
Enteric Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	0
Measles	23	—	2	3	3	3	8	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	0
Whooping Cough	173	17	7	12	18	22	94	1	1	—	—	—	1	9	0

* 11 deaths but only 1 case notified.

The number of cases of scarlet fever is about the average for recent years.

Last year there were 282 cases of measles; this year the figure has dropped to 23, the same as in 1946. Whooping cough has shown the reverse position, 173 cases this year as opposed to 16 in 1949.

Other diseases show the normal incidence.

DIPHTHERIA

Below is set out the number of cases and deaths from diphtheria during the past 10 years in Farnham and England and Wales:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Deaths</i>		<i>Cases</i>	
	<i>Farnham</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>	<i>Farnham</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
1941 ...	2	2,641	12	50,797
1942 ...	0	1,827	4	41,404
1943 ...	1	1,371	1	34,662
1944 ...	0	934	1	23,152
1945 ...	0	722	2	18,571
1946 ...	0	472	0	11,967
1947 ...	0	244	0	5,592
1948 ...	0	156	0	3,560
1949 ...	0	85	0	1,897
1950 ...	0	64	0	1,130

This shows very clearly the effect that immunisation has had on the prevalence of diphtheria since it was actively introduced.

During the year 266 children under 5 were immunised, giving a percentage in this age group of 62 while in the 5—15 years age group 183 received primary or boosting doses, giving a percentage of 98.

VACCINATION

The number of vaccinations carried out in 1950 was as follows:—

	<i>Vaccinated</i>	<i>Re-vaccinated</i>
Under 1 ...	131	0
1 — 4 ...	113	0
5 — 14 ...	6	26
15 & Over ...	4	76
	<hr/> 254 <hr/>	<hr/> 102 <hr/>

It will be seen that although there were 358 babies born during the year, only just over one-third of these were vaccinated during the year. The number being vaccinated has declined considerably since the introduction of the National Health Service. I attribute this chiefly to the abolition of Public Vaccinators. In this district there was close co-operation between the Registrar of Births, the Health Visitors and the Public Vaccinator, who visited the babies in their homes and vaccinated about 90% of the children. Since then, the percentage has fallen to about 35.

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table gives particulars of new cases of tuberculosis notified and deaths from that disease during the year:—

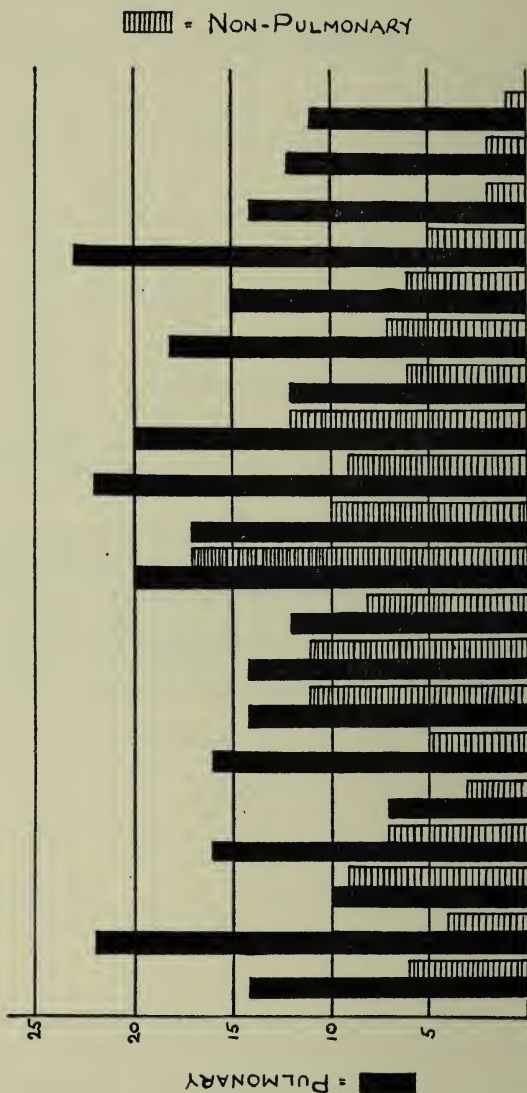
Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 ...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
25—35 ...	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
35—45 ...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 and over	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	1
Totals ...	7	4	—	1	3	2	—	1

The chart on the following page shows the number of cases of tuberculosis, pulmonary and non-pulmonary, notified in the last 20 years.

It will be seen that whereas there has been relatively little change in the number of pulmonary cases, the number of non-pulmonary cases has shown a steady decline in the last six years.

I think that the greater attention paid to the supervision of the milk supply and the fact that about 90% of the milk consumed is pasteurised is largely responsible for this welcome improvement.

TUBERCULOSIS



YEAR .. 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950
 CASES .. 14:6 22:4 10:9 16:7 7:3 16:5 14:11 14:11 12:8 20:17 17:10 22:9 20:12 12:6 18:7 15:6 23:5 14:2 12:2 11:1

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1950

The following classified table is submitted of (a) the number and nature of inspections made during the year; (b) the number of notices served during the year; (c) the result of the services of such notices:—

(a) Number and nature of inspections made during the year:—

DWELLINGHOUSES

Number inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	265
Number of inspections made, including re-inspections and visits to works in progress	...	...	...	...	...	617

OTHER VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Meat and other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	908
Dairies	...	...	...	...	88
Factorjes	...	...	...	...	128
Shops	...	...	...	...	94
Milk Sampling	...	...	...	...	166
Ice-Cream Sampling	...	...	...	...	136
Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	29
Rodent and Pest Control	...	...	...	...	1,091
Drainage	...	...	...	...	364
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	25
Caravan Sites	...	...	...	...	49
Common Lodging House	...	...	...	...	4
Places of Public Entertainment	...	...	...	...	3
Infectious Djs ease Prevention	...	...	...	...	36
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	292

(b) Notices served:—

Number of preliminary notices served under the Public Health, Housing and other Acts	...	99
--	-----	----

(c) Results of Notices:—

(1) Preliminary Notices—

(a) Complied with	...	...	...	...	95
(b) Work not commenced	...	...	...	...	4

—
99

(2) Statutory Notices—

(a) Complied with	...	...	...	...	4
(b) Work not commenced	...	...	...	...	0

—
4

SHOPS ACT, 1934

94 inspections of shops were recorded during the year and generally satisfactory conditions were found to exist in all premises.

Many small but important improvements were obtained, such as the provision of additional lavatory basins and improved sanitary accommodation for the working staff.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

In February, 1950, a rodent operator was appointed by the Council in order to carry out the provisions of the new Act.

During the year 642 visits were made by the rodent operator in treating 194 private houses and 343 visits were made in connection with the treatment of 82 business premises. Contracts entered into by the Surrey County Council were taken over and additional ones made with local business houses, public hospitals and school authorities. The sewerage system of the district was regularly treated.

Close touch has been kept with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, who are responsible for the administration of the Act, and generally good progress was made.

A Ford van was provided for the use of the operator.

INSECT VERMIN

No serious vermin infestations were found or reported during the year. Early treatment with DDT compositions overcame all nuisances.

SCHOOLS

There are in the district—

- 2 Grammar Schools
- 1 Secondary Modern School
- 14 Elementary Schools
- 14 Private or Kindergarten Schools

Water carriage systems of drainage are provided in all cases, together with a main water service for drinking purposes.

SWIMMING BATHS

The Council's Public Swimming Bath maintained its popularity during the season.

Samples taken regularly produced satisfactory results. During the hot or "peak" periods, special supervision was given to the purity of the water and to the efficient working of the filtration plant.

Private pools in the district were also supervised and samples obtained for analysis.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

No complaints were received during the year. The sawdust burning plant of a large joinery works in the town was kept under observation and suggestions were made for small improvements, which were carried out.

HOUSING

House inspection work was continued throughout the year. 265 premises were visited and 78 informal notices were sent out.

In view of the difficult times, requests to owners of cottage property were confined to those repairs of an essential character only, such as the remedying of defective roofs, the treatment of serious dampness and to the keeping of drainage and sanitary fittings in good order. Builders often had long waiting lists for small cottage repair work and much delay in getting defects attended to was inevitable. The Public Health Committee, however, gave every consideration to owners of the low or cheaply rented cottages and at the end of the year there were no serious outstanding matters.

Steady progress was maintained in the construction of new dwellings and 81 houses were completed during 1950. 47 more were under construction and altogether some 134 families were rehoused.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE

The one common lodging house in the area, regularly inspected during the year, was always found clean and well kept.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER

The Wey Valley Water Company now supply the whole of the Urban District area.

There were no complaints during the year and results of analyses, which are submitted to the Public Health Committee each month, were satisfactory. A typical report of the analyst was as follows:—

“Chemical — (Parts per Million)

Appearance — Bright, with very few mineral particles; Turbidity (Silica Scale)—Less than 3; Colour (Hazen)—Nil; Odour — Nil; Reaction pH—7.7; Free Carbon Dioxide — 3; Electric Conductivity at 20°C.—255; Total solids dried at 180°C.—170; Chlorine in Chlorides—10; Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate — 115; Hardness — Total 130, Carbonate (Temporary) — 115, Non-Carbonate (Permanent) — 15; Nitrogen in Nitrates — 0.0; Nitrogen in Nitrites — Approx. 0.01; Free Ammonia—0.015; Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C.—0.00; Albuminoid Ammonia—0.000; Free Chlorine Reaction—0.05; Metals—Absent.

Bacteriological

Number of colonies developing on Agar per cc. or ml. in 1 day at 37°C.—0; Number of colonies developing on Agar per cc. or ml. in 2 days at 37°C.—0; Number of colonies developing on Agar per cc. or ml. in 3 days at 20°C.—0; Presumptive Coliform Reaction—Absent from 100 ml.; *Bacillus coli* absent from 100 ml.; *Cl. welchii* Reaction—Absent from 100 ml.

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals. The hardness of the water and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are very moderate, and it conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and bacterial purity.

These are normal and satisfactory results, indicative of a water which is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes."

It has not yet been possible to get an extension of the mains to a group of seven dwellings in the rural part of Dippenhall, but the one well which supplies the need of the occupiers has been kept under observation. The analyst's report on a sample taken from this well was: "The above results show no evidence of pollution and the water is safe for drinking purposes."

SEWERAGE

The Ministry of Health having approved the scheme for the extension and improvement of the sewage works at Water Lane, contracts were accepted and the work will shortly be commenced. These improvements will enable the plant to cope with the increased flow of sewage and ensure a better effluent to the outfall.

Short extensions of the sewer were carried out and additional premises were provided with water closet sanitation during the year. It is to be hoped, however, that other short but important extensions will be made during 1951 in order to reduce, if possible, the number of earth closets which still remain and which now number 148. There is a weekly clearance by the Council of these earth closets.

The routine emptying of cesspools was continued throughout the year. In most instances the quarterly clearance which, of course, is done free of charge, suffices. In a number of cases it was necessary to ask for structural improvements to the cesspools.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The Guildford Road site continued to be the tip for the weekly collection of household refuse.

Arrangements were made with shopkeepers for the removal without payment of certain quantities of trade refuse. Bins for the disposal of household kitchen waste were also cleared weekly. Active steps for the salvage and baling of waste paper were undertaken.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

As the district is within the area over which the Thames Conservancy Board exercises supervision, careful observation was kept of the River Wey and of the streams which join it for any possible source of pollution.

The effluent from one small factory at Bourne Mill was connected to the main sewer.

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The following table gives details of the administration of the Factories Act, 1937, during the year:—

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>Inspec- tions</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prose- cuted</i>
Factories (Non-Mechanical) ...	11	23	0	0
Factories (Mechanical) ...	51	103	4	0
Other Premises ...	1	2	0	0
	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	63	128	4	0
	—	—	—	—

Number of cases in which Defects were found:—

	<i>Found</i>	<i>Reme- died</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Prose- cutions</i>
Want of Cleanliness ...	2	2	0	2	0
Inadequate Ventilation ...	1	1	0	0	0
Insufficient Sanitary Con- veniences ...	1	1	0	1	0
	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	4	4	0	3	0
	—	—	—	—	—

Outwork:—

Making of Wearing Apparel — 4.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Regular inspection of all food premises was carried out and 908 visits were recorded.

Every effort was made in conjunction with the Council's Hygienic Food Campaign to ensure that all food was produced and sold under cleanly conditions.

Whilst there are still many matters requiring improvement, owners of food premises responded well to requests made to them. Many small but important improvements were carried out in the cafés, restaurants, snack bars and hotels by the installation of better sink and hot water fittings. In many shops, counters on which so much food is unfortunately exposed were fitted with glass protection covers.

MILK SUPPLY

The inspection of dairies and milkshops, together with their plant and equipment, was continued and the regular taking of samples, both from the dairy itself and from the milk roundsmen, was carried out. At the suggestion of the County Council, samples for biological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli were taken from producer-retailers of non-pasteurised milk. All samples produced negative results. Monthly reports of the milk pasteurised at the Farnham Dairy are also sent to the Surrey County Council Public Health Department.

The sale of raw milk has been considerably reduced and quite 90% of the milk now retailed is pasteurised.

The Farnham Dairy Ltd. have prepared plans for building a new dairy with modern pasteurising and bottle washing plant at Weydon Lane, Farnham, and work will commence in the new year.

The following table gives a summary of the results of samples obtained and submitted for analysis during the year:—

<i>Designation</i>		<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Pasteurised	... ..	61	0	61
Accredited	... ..	39	8	47
Tuberculin Tested	... ..	2	0	2
Ordinary	... ..	32	7	39
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	... ..	134	15	149
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

MEAT

All carcase meat is distributed from the Ministry of Food Depot outside the town and there is no slaughterhouse in the district.

Butchers' shops, as well as the meat vans, were regularly inspected. There has unfortunately been no improvement in the type of delivery van used by the Ministry Wholesale Depot.

All butchers' shops are protected by glass windows.

The following table gives the commodity and amount of foodstuffs condemned during the year:—

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Canned Fruit	14	2	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
Canned Vegetables	11	2	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
English Beef	10	0	20 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Meats	6	3	12
Potatoes	5	0	0
Wet Fish	4	1	24
Imported Beef	1	2	24
English Pork	1	0	0
Rice		3	16
Frozen Tripe		2	16
Canned Christmas Pudding		2	7
Jam		1	17 $\frac{3}{4}$
Whale Meat		1	17
Prunes		1	16
Frozen Eggs		1	14
Mutton		1	10 $\frac{3}{4}$
Canned Fish			22 $\frac{3}{4}$
Bacon			19 $\frac{1}{4}$
Dates			19
Canned Bacon Rashers			11
Cow Udder			6
Boiled Sweets			4
Cheese			3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Total ...	3 tons	0	20

1,189 Eggs
 458 tins Milk
 73 tins Soup
 41 boxes Cheese
 20 packets Sponge Mixture
 12 cartons Dried Onions
 11 jars Pickles
 10 bottles Fruit Squash
 7 packets Cake Flour
 6 tins Paste
 5 jars Salad Dressing
 4 tins Fish
 4 tins Orange Juice
 2 packets Bun Flour
 2 packets Vita Wheat
 1 bottle Tomato Sauce
 1 tin Tomato Juice

ICE-CREAM

The following table shows the number and results of samples obtained and submitted for analysis during 1950:—

<i>Samples Taken</i>	<i>Grade I</i>	<i>Grade II</i>	<i>Grade III</i>	<i>Grade IV</i>
124	89	28	6	1

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN

The Farnham Hygienic Food Council comprises four members of the Council, who are also members of the Public Health Committee, together with three representatives of the Farnham & District Chamber of Commerce

There are now nearly one hundred members covering every kind of food premises belonging to the Association. A Code of Practice was approved and distributed to every food shop in the district. A copy was also sent, on request, to the House of Commons for use during a debate on clean food questions.

ADULTERATION

The Surrey County Council is the responsible Authority for the administration of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, in connection with adulteration, and the following table gives a summary of the results of samples taken during 1950:—

<i>Articles</i>	<i>Analysed</i>			<i>Adulterated or Irregular</i>			<i>Prosecutions</i>	<i>Convictions</i>
	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Total</i>		
Milk	80	3	83	6	—	6	—	—
Fruit Flavoured Lolly	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Goats' Cream ...	—	1	1	—	1*	1	—	—
Ice-Cream ...	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Malt and Hops ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Alcoholic Wine	2	—	2	2	—	2	—	—
Sausages	7	—	7	—	—	—	—	—
Soup	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Spirits	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	94	6	100	8	1	9	—	—

* Labelling Offence.

E. W. LANGHAM,
PRINTER,
FARNHAM, SURREY,
AND AT HASLEMERE.